

VIRGINIA WESTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Local Board Meeting Minutes Minutes No. 238 September 17, 2009

The Virginia Western Community College Local Board was called to order at 11:30 am Thursday, September 17, 2009, in the Natural Science Center by Chairman Dennis Cronk. He welcomed everyone and thanked them for their time and dedication to Virginia Western.

Members Present: Mr. Barry Baird, Roanoke City
Mr. Dennis Cronk, Roanoke City.....Chair
Mr. Forest Jones, City of Salem
Mr. William Hackworth, Roanoke City
Mr. David P. Mitchell, Roanoke County
Mr. Jerry Burgess, Botetourt County
Ms. Debbie Snead, Craig County
Mr. Joseph Wright, Roanoke City

Members Absent: Dr. Lorraine Lange, Roanoke County.....Vice Chair
Mr. Larry Moore, Franklin County
Mr. Joseph Thomas, Roanoke County

Staff Present: Ms. Fredona Aaron, Business Office Manager
Ms. Amy Balzer, Administrative Assistant
Ms. Cristin Barrett, Mathematics Instructor
Mr. George Bevilacqua, Project Manager, Facilities Mgmt. Services
Dr. John Capps, VP of Academic and Student Affairs
Ms. Anne Kornegay, Dean of Institutional Effectiveness
Ms. Cheryl Miller, VP of Financial and Administrative Services
Dr. Robert Sandel, President
Mr. Bill Work, Faculty Senate President

Guests Present: Mr. Russell Ellis, Educational Foundation President
Mr. Mike Griffin, CJMW
Mr. Emmitt Lifsey, CJMW

I. CJMW PRESENTATION

After a brief introduction, Mr. Mike Griffin and Mr. Emmitt Lifsey of Calloway Johnson Moore and West presented the preliminary design for the new Center for Science and Health Professions, with an anticipated groundbreaking of spring 2010. They explained this building is the culmination of numerous user group input sessions, executive committee meetings and extensive research. This building is intended to mesh the styles of North and South campuses and create a dynamic image from Colonial Avenue and the south side of campus.

Mr. Baird made a motion to approve the preliminary design of the Center for Science and Health Professions as presented on this day to the Board. Mr. Jones seconded the motion, and the motion was approved.

II. COMMENTS AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Cronk welcomed Mr. Jerry Burgess as our new Botetourt County local board representative. Mr. Burgess holds the position of Botetourt County Administrator. Mr. Cronk also introduced Mr. William (Bill) Work as the new president of the Faculty Senate. He is a professor of sociology in the Social Sciences Division. Mr. Cronk thanked them both for taking the time to be present.

Mr. Jones made a motion to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of May 21, 2009. Mr. Hackworth seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

III. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Sandel reported to the board on the changing dynamics of the college:

- The new building is a major complex, first-class, state-of-the-art facility designed to meet the needs of the students, faculty, and community.
- The student population is younger and wanting more amenities on campus. The college is working hard to meet these desires.
- The recent budget reduction announcement will have dramatic implications. The college is currently facing a 13% general funds reduction to be offset with 2010 stimulus funds for a net reduction of 6.9%. An additional 10% reduction is anticipated next year.
- Other sources for college funding such as tuition, fees, locality support, and foundation support all need to be looked at and cautiously increased to help support the needs of the students.
- Academic and Student Affairs is doing a great job with fewer full-time and more adjunct faculty.
- Parking remains a challenge on this growing campus.
- Organizational charts, program productivity and support services are all being reviewed for effectiveness and efficiency.

IV. COLLEGE REPORTS AND UPDATES

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS

Dr. Capps took this time to inform the Board of Academic & Student Affairs accomplishments and new projects:

- An increase of 346 full-time students this fall over last year.
- A 21.8% increase in students from underserved populations compared to last year.
- A 41% increase in financial aid applications processed this year.
- The Discover orientation program began this year with 5 sessions serving 513 students.
- The first class of culinary students graduated and 150 students are enrolled this semester.
- The college has created a pathway for Roanoke County students to earn associate's degree at the same time as they complete credits for high school graduation.
- The college is concentrating on developmental education as this is a key focus of the VCCS's new strategic plan.
- Especially problematic is the area of developmental math.

Dr. Capps then introduced Ms. Cristin Barrett, mathematics instructor, and coordinator of a pilot developmental math program introduced this fall for Algebra I and II. Ms. Barrett discussed the new modularized approach to developmental math. This pilot program, PRISMM (Project for Retention and Increased Success in Mathematics through Modularization), is designed to offer the classes in four-week modules. The main premise behind this program is that each student is allowed to work at his or her own pace and complete only the modules he or she needs to master. Testing is done at the beginning, and credit is given for skills already mastered.

Ms. Kornegay explained the enclosed core requirements that SACS has specified for local board members. She also shared that the feedback from the recent off-site visits by SACS for the Culinary and Welding programs was very positive and the locations met the SACS representatives' expectations. One recommendation was that VWCC provide more information for reporting since the assessment procedure has changed since the last review. She reminded the group that the Fifth-Year Interim Report is due October 15th of this year.

FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Mr. Wright discussed and then presented the following items on behalf of the Finance Committee for local board consideration of approval:

- Local Funds Financial Reports (July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009)
- Local Fund Proposed Budget July 1, 2009 – August 31, 2009)

The Finance Committee recommended board approval of the financial reports as presented, and the recommendation was approved unanimously.

Mr. Wright then discussed the proposed renovation to the student life center and the associated financial feasibility study that has been submitted and will be considered by the general assembly for approval in concept, then to the state board for approval of funding plans. Dr. Sandel added that the students are seeking additional amenities.

The Finance Committee recommended board approval of the proposal to renovate the Campus Student Life Center, and the recommendation was approved.

Mr. Wright addressed the increasing need for additional parking on campus with the current and anticipated enrollment along with the construction of the new building. The next feasible area to create parking is the existing soccer field behind Anderson Hall. The amount of local funds being set aside for this project is \$660,000.

The Finance Committee recommended approval for the construction of an additional parking lot on the existing soccer field, and the recommendation was approved.

EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

Mr. Ellis updated the Board on the following key areas:

- Success of the Community College Access Programs with 51 students from Roanoke City and 47 new students from Salem (also have 19 returning from last year).

- The new marketing initiative, “We’ll Take You There” will launch in October with an associated website, www.wheresyourthere.com.
- Mr. Luke Waldrop completed his pledge of \$100,000 to the Salem Access Program.

V. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

Mr. Cronk reported that he is in the process of appointing his executive committee. The 2009-2010 board meeting schedule is enclosed and he noted that the next meeting will be the State Board meeting in November in Richmond. Mr. Cronk also mentioned that he will be attending the ‘Grow by Degrees’ Summit with Dr. Sandel in Richmond. He asked the board members to keep Mr. Joe Thomas in their thoughts as he has not been feeling well.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Cronk thanked everyone for attending. The next scheduled meeting is November 10-11, 2009 in Richmond. The board members will receive meeting details via email once available.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:20 pm.

Minutes submitted by: Ms. Amy Balzer

Minutes Approved by:


Mr. Dennis Cronk, Chair


Date